

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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DEQ Seeks Comments on Shields River Water Quality Plan and TMDLs

Helena -- The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has released the Shields River Watershed Water Quality Planning Framework and Sediment TMDLs.

In simple terms, a total maximum daily load (TMDL) is a plan to attain and maintain water quality standards in waters that are not currently meeting them. The waters not currently meeting water quality standards in the planning area have been identified and described in the document. The document also presents a draft plan to attain and maintain water quality standards in all of those waters considered impaired.

A public information meeting will be held on June 12, 2008 at the Clyde Park Community Hall building located in Clyde Park, Montana. The evening meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. A DEQ representative will provide an open house style forum to provide information about the document, answer questions, and engage in discussion.

The draft document is available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.mt.gov. Copies are available at the Park County Conservation District office in Livingston, the Livingston public library, and at the State Library in Helena, Montana. Public comments will be accepted until 5 p.m., July 2, 2008. Comments may be mailed to Montana Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901, or emailed to TMDLComments@mt.gov.

For more information, document availability or other questions, please contact Lisa Kusnierz, MTDEQ, at (406) 444-3658, or by e-mail at lkusnierz@mt.gov. The DEQ will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this open house. If you require an accommodation, please contact Jacquie Nelson at (406) 222-2899, ext. 111 no later than 12:00 p.m., June 10, 2008.

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